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22 October 1951

THRU: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director (Administration)
Security Officer/CIA

Policy re Membership on Security Advisory Committee of ICIS

1. The ICIS has proposed a Security Advisory Committee of not less than five members from the Defense agencies. This committee would have a permanent secretary. It would be used to advise the NSC and the President on security matters such as classification, clearance methods and procedures and other internal security matters of definite defense nature. CIA will probably be asked to sit on this committee as a full time voting member.

2. The following policy matters should be considered in arriving at a decision:

a. CIA is barred from internal security functions. As a part of this committee, CIA would be engaged in formulating certain internal security policies.

b. However, the DCI does have the function of protection of U. S. intelligence sources and methods.

c. The Security Advisory Committee will in fact have the same functions as the old Security Advisory Board which was abolished in 1946 due to a storm of criticism from the public and the Press.

3. Recommend that our policy should be that CIA will have a non-voting membership on an observer basis on the Security Advisory Committee. However, when issues come before the committee which do affect intelligence sources and methods, CIA representative will then take active participation with the right to vote on those issues.

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SHEFFIELD EDWARDS
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Approved:

WALTER B. SMITH
Director of Central Intelligence

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